



**DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS AND ENERGY
GENERAL PERMIT FOR SAND AND GRAVEL OPERATIONS
LESS THAN TEN ACRES IN SIZE**

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This general permit governs the mining of sand, or sand and gravel which affect a total disturbed area of less than 10 acres in size. The general permit is not applicable to dredging operations or those that otherwise intend to mine below the groundwater table.

In order to obtain approval from the Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) for the activity covered under this general permit, the applicant must complete a Permit/License Application (Form DMM-101). No ground disturbance shall take place until the application is approved and the appropriate bond and permit fees are submitted. Additional information may be required based on site-specific conditions.

In addition to the conditions listed below, this permit is subject to all requirements of Chapter 16, Title 45.1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended 1950. Inspections by DMM Mine Inspectors, as required by law, may take place at any time deemed necessary to ensure that all mine activities are in compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.

In special cases involving public safety or environmental concerns, the DMM Director may deny the application for a general permit and require application for an individual permit.

Issuance of this general permit does not preclude the need to obtain other federal, state or local authorizations as required by law. The general permit may be re-evaluated and/or revoked at any time under circumstances including, but not limited to:

1. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.
2. Submittal of a permit application that proves to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate.
3. Change of permit conditions.

Upon re-evaluation, the general permit may remain in effect pending the approval of an amendment or other items to address special circumstances.

ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED TO DMM

- | | | |
|---|----------|------------------|
| 1. Permit/License Application (Form DMM-101) | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| 2. Permit Notifications (Forms DMM-103, 103A) | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| 3. Certified mail receipts for adjacent property owners within 1000 feet of permit boundary | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| 4. Proof of notification of local administrative officials | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| 5. Proof of notification of utility companies with facilities within 500 feet of permit boundary | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| 6. VDOT Commercial Entrance Permit | Yes ____ | No ____ N/A ____ |
| 7. Permit map drawn to a scale of 400 feet to the inch showing the entire permit area. Map should include: location of the mine pit, main access road, haul roads, product and waste storage areas and all other facilities within the permit; property boundary of tract being mined; property boundaries and names of surface owners within 1000 feet of the permit boundary; sensitive features within 1,000 feet of the permit boundary such as cemeteries, oil and gas wells, underground mine workings, streams, creeks and other bodies of public water, public utilities and utility lines, public buildings, public roads, churches, and occupied dwellings; drainage flow directions within the permit area; map scale and north arrow. | | |
| 8. Map legend (Form DMM-109). | | |
| 9. General location map showing the location of the mine, such as a county highway map or equivalent. | | |

Two copies of all documents are required. An explanation needs to be attached for any documents not submitted.

OFF-SITE MATERIALS / HAZARDOUS WASTE

Disposal of off-site generated waste materials will not be allowed within the permitted area.

No chemicals or hazardous materials will be stored or allowed on-site.

No trash and/or debris will be allowed to accumulate on-site. All on-site generated waste such as used petroleum products, contaminated fuel, used anti-freeze, used batteries, used cleaning solvents, etc. will be properly stored until disposed of at an approved off-site facility.

SIGNS

A sign shall be posted at the mining site adjacent to the principal access road. The name of the permittee and the permit number shall be clearly painted on the sign. The dimensions of the sign shall be 4-ft x 4-ft, and it shall be attached to a metal pipe or wood post at a minimum height of 4 feet above ground level.

MARKING OF PERMIT BOUNDARIES

The permit boundary of the mine shall be clearly marked with identifiable markings when mine related disturbing activities are within 100' of the permit boundary.

ROADS

The access road entrance shall be approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The access road will be properly maintained to ensure that mud and debris are not tracked onto public roads. The access road will be at least 15 feet in width and paved with gravel, asphalt or a combination of sand and gravel for a distance of 200 feet from the junction with the public road. All access roads and service roads will be properly maintained to control dust. Maintenance of the road system shall consist of inspecting, repairing and cleaning of roadways, ditches and culverts as necessary. Internal service roads and principal access roads shall be planned to minimize the impact of traffic, dust, and vehicle noise on developed areas outside the mining site.

Road surfaces and ditches will be stabilized with rock or other suitable paving material, or vegetated in the case of ditches. When a road is abandoned, steps shall be taken immediately to minimize erosion and establish vegetative cover. These steps will involve scarifying the road to a depth of 12 inches and seeding to meet the post mining land use requirements. The haul road may be left un-reclaimed with the landowner's approval following the completion of mining.

Sediment control shall be provided for roads to minimize sediment that leaves the permitted and disturbed area. Culverts with a minimum diameter of 12 inches, but adequate to carry storm runoff, will be installed at intervals to prevent overloading of ditches. Where necessary, the inlet end shall be protected by a headwall of a suitable material and the outlet end shall discharge onto an apron of rock riprap or concrete. Runoff will not be allowed to flow over an unprotected fill slope.

DRAINAGEWAYS

No impacts to natural drainageways will be allowed. All intermittent or perennial streams shall be protected from spoil by natural or constructed barriers. In the event that a stream crossing is required, a plan will be submitted detailing the crossing.

A 50-foot buffer zone of undisturbed vegetation or undisturbed forest will be provided and maintained on both sides of all streams in the mining area. Buffer zones will be maintained in addition to proper sediment control.

SCREENING

Site screening will be achieved by one or a combination of the following methods: (1) 100 feet of undisturbed forest within the permit boundary; (2) the use of natural topography; (3) constructed berms; and (4) tree plantings. If trees are planted, they will be evergreens of adequate height and suitable to the area. At least two rows will be planted with trees staggered along the rows. The slopes of screening berms will be 3H:1V and seeded immediately to prevent erosion. The toe of the berms shall not be constructed within 25 feet of adjacent property boundaries without written permission from the adjoining property owner. Sediment control for the exterior of berms will be provided by properly installed silt fence. Berms shall be removed and the material used in reclamation following mining.

MINING METHOD, TOPSOIL STORAGE AND DRAINAGE CONTROL

Prior to any land disturbing activities, temporary sediment control will be properly installed where necessary around the perimeter of the area to be disturbed. Topsoil and overburden will be removed and stockpiled or used to create diversion berms around the perimeter of the site. The constructed berms will be no higher than 5 feet above the natural ground elevation and will have a top width of at least 4 feet. The side slopes will be 3H:1V or less and will be compacted and vegetated. No topsoil will be removed without prior approval. Diversion berms will be inspected on a regular basis and maintained as necessary. Berms shall not be constructed within 25 feet of adjacent property boundaries without written permission from the adjoining property owner. Tree roots and limbs generated on-site may be stockpiled within the permit area. As areas are completed, the berms will be utilized to obtain final grade and promote vegetative cover.

Mining will be conducted in such a way as to direct all surface runoff into the pit. All storm-water drainage within the disturbed area will be diverted into the pit. If a drainage outlet is needed, a permit amendment including a design for the outlet will be required.

MINING BELOW THE WATER TABLE

No mining will take place below the water table without first obtaining approval through an amendment.

METAL AND DEBRIS

All metal, lumber and debris will be stored in one location within the permitted area for use in repair of equipment, or to be sold at a later date. No metal will be left on the site after mining is complete. Any off-site generated metal waste will be promptly removed to an approved landfill. There will be no landfilling activities on the permitted area.

COMPLETED SLOPES

All active slopes will be maintained at the angle of repose (i.e. no steeper than 1H:1V). All final slopes will be graded to 3H:1V or a lesser slope. Reclamation will be conducted concurrently with mining.

ACID MATERIAL

All acid-generating spoil materials will be segregated and buried to a minimum depth of four feet.

REVEGETATION

As each area is mined out, it shall be immediately regraded and vegetated to provide simultaneous reclamation. Compacted soils shall be ripped or scarified to a depth of at least 18 inches prior to seeding. Lime and fertilizer requirements shall be determined by soil testing. Seed selection will be determined in consultation with the DMM mine inspector based on the best post mining land use determination at the time. Constructed wetlands will be considered as a post mining land use only after the operator submits and receives approval for a plan. Tree plantings are encouraged as part of the post mining land use and must occur in forest, unmanaged forest, and wildlife habitat post mining land uses.

The post mining land use for this permit area will be _____.

CLOSURE OF ROADS OR OPENINGS

Upon abandonment of the mine, the operator shall effectively close or fence all roads, openings, and pits where hazardous conditions exist. Warning signs shall be posted. If fencing is necessary, the fence shall be 4-feet high woven wire with two strands of barbed wire on top. Intermittently worked mines shall also be closed or barricaded, and posted with warning signs to prevent access to roads and hazardous areas.

PERMIT AMENDMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR:

1. Mining below the water table.
2. Bringing off-site material on to the permit area.
3. Any other deviation from this general permit.